

FISCAL NOTE

HB 3049 - SB 3122

February 25, 2000

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Permits the Department of Transportation to allow installation of underground fiber optic cable line and related facilities within the rights-of-way of controlled-access highways on the state highway system and/or federal highway system, subject to reasonable and appropriate regulations to protect the public safety and welfare.
- Authorizes the department to require the payment of fair and reasonable compensation for the use of such rights-of-way. This compensation shall be in addition to any administrative fees or charges the Department of Transportation may require for the issuance of a permit.
- Allows the department to receive the compensation in the form of money, or in the form of telecommunications facilities and services for the use of the department in operating the highway system, or in some combination thereof, as the department may determine.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenues - Exceeds \$1,000,000/Highway Fund/Permissive

To the extent the Department of Transportation chooses to permit the use of highway rights-of-way for the purposes outlined in the bill and charges a fee for such use, the Highway Fund would realize an increase in revenues. The amount of revenue that would be obtained would depend on the number of vendors interested in using the states' rights-of-way and the extent of such need. This amount cannot be determined but can be reasonably estimated to exceed \$1,000,000.

To the extent that the department agreed to alternative compensation such as access to fiber optic cable or other services, the bill would prevent expenditures in the Highway Fund estimated to exceed \$1,000,000 that would have otherwise occurred in the absence of such compensation agreement.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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